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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0124

INFO AFRICAN UNION COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE

EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE

RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 0021

RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE 0003

RUEHTH/AMEMBASSY ATHENS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 000689

SIPDIS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA PASS TO AMCONSUL ADANA

AMEMBASSY ASTANA PASS TO USOFFICE ALMATY

AMEMBASSY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMEMBASSY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL LEIPZIG

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PASS TO AMEMBASSY PODGORICA

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PASS TO AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PASS TO AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE PASS TO AMEMBASSY MALABO

E.O. 12958: DECL: 2019/04/29

TAGS: [AORC](#) [EAID](#) [PGOV](#) [GR](#) [MA](#)

SUBJECT: GREECE URGES EARLY RETURN TO CONSTITUTIONAL RULE IN MADAGASCAR

REF: SECSTATE 35809

CLASSIFIED BY: Paul Carter, Deputy Political Counselor, U.S. Department of State, Athens; REASON: 1.4(B), (D)

¶1. (C) On April 27 polooff delivered reftel points urging a return to constitutional rule in Madagascar to Stefanos Ioannides, Counselor for Sub-Saharan Africa in the A9 Division of the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA). While Greece believed a return to constitutional order in Madagascar was important, Ioannides said that the most important point was to continue providing humanitarian aid to the island, as France and other EU nations were doing.

¶2. (C) Ioannides returned from Brussels on April 26 where he attended various meetings centered on Africa, specifically Somalia. The situation in Madagascar was brought up only once to his knowledge, when France expressed the importance of continuing humanitarian aid to the island. Ioannides looked forward to free and democratic elections in Madagascar, ideally without the participation of either Ravalomanana or Rajoelina. Greece did not play a major role in this issue and generally sided with other EU nations on this matter. Furthermore, Ioannides hoped that Madagascar would invite the EU to act as an observer once the election time was set.

SPECKHARD